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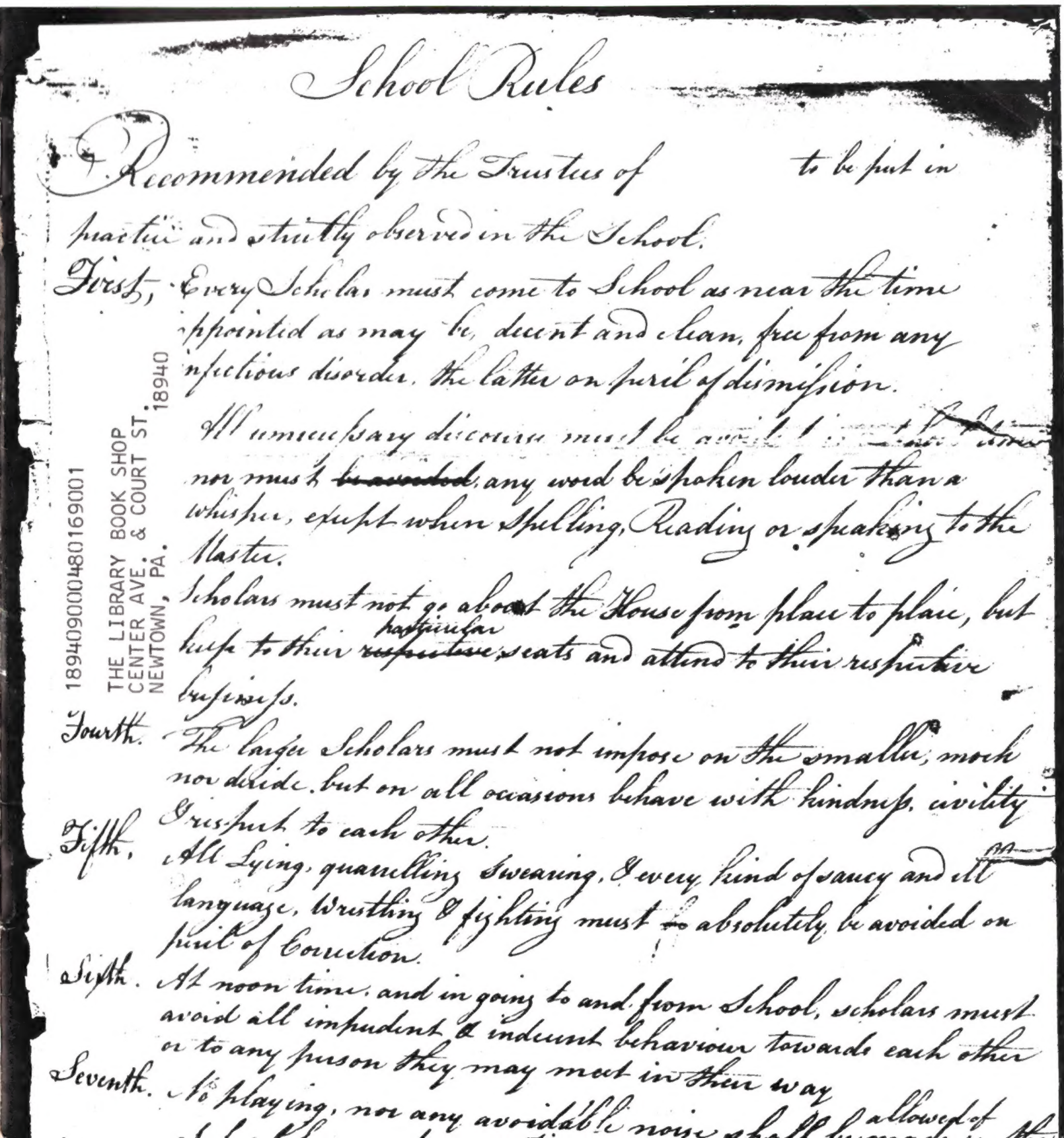
Bucks County
PANORAMA



# School Rules

Recommended by the Trustees of to be put in practice and strictly observed in the School.

First, Every Scholar must come to School as near the time appointed as may be, decent and clean, free from any infectious disorder, the latter on peril of dismission.

All unnecessary discourse must be avoided [illegible] nor must it ~~be avoided~~, any word be spoken louder than a whisper, except when Spelling, Reading or speaking to the Master.

Scholars must not go about the House from place to place, but keep to their ~~respective~~ particular seats and attend to their respective business.

Fourth. The larger Scholars must not impose on the smaller, mock nor deride, but on all occasions behave with kindness, civility & respect to each other.

Fifth, All Lying, quarelling, Swearing, & every kind of saucy and ill language, Wrestling & fighting must be absolutely be avoided on pain of Correction.

Sixth. At noon time, and in going to and from School, scholars must avoid all impudent & indecent behaviour towards each other or to any person they may meet in their way

Seventh. No playing, nor any avoidable noise shall be allowed of

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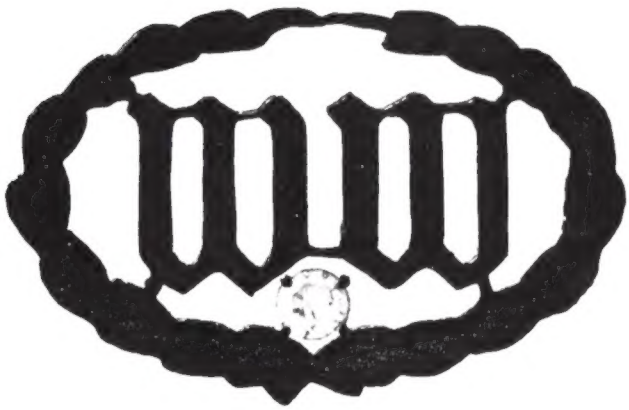

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Bucks County
# PANORAMA

— *The Magazine of Bucks County* —

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# CALENDAR of EVENTS

## *September, 1968*

1-30 **Washington Crossing** — Taylor House, built in 1812 by Mahlon K. Taylor now serves as headquarters for the Washington Crossing Park Commission, open to the public, weekdays 8:30 to 5 p.m., Sat. 8:30 to 11 a.m.

1-30 **Fallsington** — Burges-Lippincott House — 18th Century Architecture, open to the public, Wed. thru Sunday including Holidays 1 to 5 p.m.

1-30 **Morrisville** — William Penn's Country Home, built in 1683. Daily 8:30 to 4:30 p.m., Sunday Noon to 4:30 p.m. Admission 50 cents, under 12 free.

1-30 **Doylestown** — Mercer Museum, Pine and Ashland Streets. Tues. thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Closed Monday. Adults 75 cents, children under 12, 25 cents.

1-30 **Pineville** — Wilmar Lapidary Art Museum, the Country's largest private collection of hand-carved semi-precious stones. Open to the public Tues. thru Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. 50 cents.

1-30 **Bristol** — "The Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Museum" — Victorian Decor. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 1 to 3 p.m. Groups by appointment only. 610 Radcliffe St.

1-30 **New Hope** — New Hope and Ivyland Railroad, scenic trips through Bucks County on vintage trains, 14 mile round trips. Saturday and Sunday only — 12, 1:30, 4 and 5:30 p.m.

1-30 **Bristol** — Historical cruises and tour, "The Delaware Queen", cruises on the Delaware River for a 50 minute Historical trip. Weekdays 7 p.m., weekends, hourly from 9 a.m.

1-15 **Doylestown** — Bucks County Arts Foundation — "One Man Show" — Mrs. June Weingarten. Daily 10 to 4 p.m. 50 E. Court St.

1,8,15 **Churchville** — Nature Center — Fall Nature Programs for the Family 2 and 3:30 p.m.

1 **Holland** — Northampton Riding Association Horse Show — 9 a.m.

1-4 **New Hope** — 9th Annual Crafts Show — Penna. Guild of Craftsmen American Legion Hall. 1 to 9 p.m. Daily and Sunday.

6,7 **Sellersville** — 2nd Annual Millstream Antique Show. Route 152, East of Route 309. The Armory, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Benefit Grandview Hospital.

6,7 **Feasterville** — Fall Flower Show. Trevose Horticultural Society, Bucks County Mall, Friday, 1 to 9 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (*continued on page 22*)

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# EDUCATION IN BUCKS COUNTY

*by Sheila W. Martin*

In 1797 the code of regulations of the Hilltown Baptist School stated that the teacher "is instructed to use no partiality among the scholars, otherwise he will expose himself to the aversion and contempt of the employers and scholars, but to govern them with gentle insinuation and sovereign delight."

Language may change over the years but sound advice is still sound and teachers of today could still teach by that old code. It is very interesting as we look back into the past years of education in Bucks County to note the many points of similarity. We can sense a bond with the teachers and parents, and yes, the students, too.

Parents bemoaning the soaring school taxes today and the parents of Bucks County in the 1800's have a lot in common, only in earlier times the parents not only raised the money but selected and bought the land for the school and paid the teachers.

A sense of community responsibility for the "disadvantaged" child of yesteryear was evidenced by the fact that assessors of each County township reported the names of poor children, whose school expenses were then paid by the County. Bucks County came up with $3,589.97 in 1829 for this purpose.

Teachers striking for higher pay and better working conditions might think with pity of their predecessors in Bucks County who also had salary troubles as well as a very heavy teaching load. Minutes of the Bristol Township School Board for 1840 state: "Horace Estes agrees to teach the Centerville school 10 months; to commence on the first day of June, at the sum of twenty-three dollars per month. He agrees to teach reading, spelling, writing, geography, astronomy, arithmetic, English grammar, natural philosophy, intellectual philosophy, rhetoric, bookkeeping, algebra, geometry, history, and the French language." Imagine finding a substitute teacher for him!

Attention, all Bucks County PTA members. Way back in 1858 in Newtown, the first County Teachers Institute was held. Does its program sound at all familiar? The Institute met twice a month so the teachers could discuss their problems, parents were invited, and entertainment was provided — all for the purpose of making the work of the school better known to the public. Some problems of that era were obtaining more school equipment, particularly books, and overcoming the language barrier of some pupils who spoke only German.

Guidance counselors and vice-principals in charge of discipline might be interested in the rules for student behavior observed in Bucks County schools in 1840.

Rule 1. Scholars must be at school at the appointed time and take their seats quietly and not run about the room from place to place without occasion.

Rule 2. No scholar shall be allowed to attend school who is not decent and clean and free from infectious disorders.

Rule 3. All unnecessary discourse between the scholars must be avoided and no words may be spoken above a whisper, except when attending class or by special consent of the teacher.

**Rule 4. Scholars must not stare at strangers who**

come into the room, nor at those who pass by the building, nor neglect their studies to look out the windows at persons passing by.

Rule 5. Scholars must not ramble about in any enclosure, field or orchard, about the school building.

Rule 6. The larger scholars must not tease nor deride the smaller or weaker ones, but must on all occasions behave with civility, kindness and respect toward each other.

Rule 7. No wrestling, fighting, swearing, lying, gaming, trading, or any indecent behavior shall be allowed under pain of dismissal, as the nature of the case may be.

Rule 8. At noontime, scholars must not be noisy at play, nor stare or point at passersby.

Rule 9. In coming or returning home from school, scholars must pass along quietly without abusing any person or thing.

Rule 10. Scholars must not mark nor deface desks, nor abuse any of the school property.

Rule 11. Scholars must not play tag, nor throw snowballs during noontime, nor in going to and from school.

Rule 12. Scholars must be considered under the care of the teacher from the time they leave home in the morning till they return in the evening.

Rule 13. Every scholar shall be accountable for the windows they break.

A close examination of these rules tells us several things: school children were in the habit of making noise, fighting, playing games, and occasionally breaking windows in 1840, and they haven't changed a bit in the last 128 years. We also note the use of the word "scholar" which is very sound psychology for it assumes the children are in the process of learning.

School board members wondering about some of the way-out architectural designs for new schools submitted for their approval might look at pictures of the Octagonal (Eight Square) schoolhouses which were scattered throughout Bucks County between 1800 and 1840. If the Board's problem involves picking a name for these new schools perhaps a roll call of some of the poetic names given to Bucks County schools in the past will help: Frosty Hollow, Hickory Grove, Three Mile Run, Friendship, Sunny Hill, and Good Intent.

Friction between the classroom teacher and the administration existed in an earlier century as borne out by this letter in the editorial column of the Doylestown Intelligencer of Nov. 3, 1857:

"To Correspondents: We have on hand several communications from school teachers in reply to criticism of the County Superintendent of Schools on their manner of teaching and mode of conducting exercises in their respective schools. These communications are not very complimentary to the County Superintendent and we are asked to publish them over fictitious names. This we decline to do. If the writers will authorize us to attach their names to them, they shall appear in our columns at once and we take occasion to say that all others who feel aggrieved at the County Superintendent can have a hearing in our columns over their own names."

Those educators who are planning curricula, visual aid programs, and any efforts to improve the learning of the pupils in the 13 school districts of Bucks County might incorporate some of the methods used in County schools in the 1800's to promote interest in learning.

A system of "Singing Geography" was brought to Bucks County by Samuel Naylor. While they gazed at Felton's Outline Maps hanging on the classroom wall, the pupils sang out the names of rivers, lakes, mountains, and principal cities — to the gay tune of "Old Dan Tucker". It really sounds like fun.

Another method used to foster the competitive spirit thought necessary to make the pupils want to learn was the time-honored spelling match. These were usually held on Friday afternoons with the competing students cheered on by relatives and neighbors who came to observe.

Bucks County schools have been quick to try and adopt the best of new educational ideas. Some of these are: guidance in the Elementary Schools; Area Vocational-Technical Education; County-wide Community colleges;

*(continued on page 10)*

*photo by Richard M. Trivane*

# The Library at the Lake

*by Christopher Brooks*

September is here once again and it is the time for children to return to their books as one of the first steps to make during this back-to-school season. There are many interesting tales scattered over Bucks County about historic schools of yesteryear. It would be interesting, for a change, to discuss that institution which has indeed played an important role in education for all times, the library.

Regardless of its own importance in our country's past, the town of Yardley can be especially proud of its own public library. The Yardley-Makefield Free Public Library is a small, but delightfully historic "seat of learning," holding many of its own fine treasures from the past.

The Yardley Library was first established in 1845 and was incorporated in 1877. It was turned over to the borough in 1918 as a public library. At this point it began its career as the Yardley Library Company, a non-profit organization.

On one occasion several years ago, Kenneth Leidy, a member of the Yardley Library Board, climbed up the rafters of the small building to investigate a broken window pane. Mr. Leidy could see an old book in a dark corner.

The little volume proved interesting indeed, for it was the First Official Register of the Yardleyville Library Company. The 312 brittle pages of the book told of the people who read books in those days. There were listings of names like Scattergood, Cadwallader, Moon, Yardley, Neeld, Longshore, Van Horn, and many another. The notes kept in the book were made by Miss Lillie K. Yardley. She was librarian from 1861 to 1880. Librarians before her were her father, William, and Samuel Slack.

There was a time when shareholders paid an annual fee of $1.50 for the privilege of borrowing library books. Of course, this was done away with when it became a free public library. It is also interesting to note that a book was prepared listing the titles of all of the books which had been stored in the library. This particular volume, which is still in existence, lists children's books, histori-

(*continued on page 22*)

# HOW TO MAKE

# FAMILY LIFE

# MORE FUN

Whether you've known your family for five years or for 25, there are still things you *don't* know about them. For instance, they can still surprise you in new situations, and find new ways to make you laugh. To find out "what's new" in your family, stage some "happenings" — family-style.

Whenever possible, take your family by surprise: Go for an unscheduled evening at the bowling alley — the exercise will do everybody good, and you can talk to each other while you bowl! Take them out for an unexpected dinner at a local hotel or motel dining room or drive-in hamburger stand. Single someone out for a surprise *un*-birthday party. Or sneak up from behind and *snap* them by surprise with your camera!

Make beautiful music together: Get a kit to build your own stereo, electric organ, or even harpsichord! Learn to play simple musical instruments like the recorder, and have a family ensemble. Instead of banishing Junior and his guitar to the basement — or his buddy's basement — make him the center of a family sing-along.

Run away from home: Pack up the kids and take off — you don't have to wait till you have two-weeks-with-pay to do it. A nearby hotel or motel — with swimming pool and shops, outdoor recreation and indoor entertainment — makes *one weekend* just like a vacation! Or on a Saturday afternoon go exploring in the country — and toss a coin at each crossroad.

Do the same old things — but with a difference: Go to a *foreign* movie for a change, or to a really old-time one! Instead of watching television, stage your own versions of your favorite — or least favorite — shows. Have a party for adults only — but invite the children who are old enough as "honorary adults."

Make big plans: Remodel and redecorate the whole house — just on paper. Everyone can be in charge of one room. Anyone who is old enough should have a say in the more important family matters, too. Children should be a part of family discussions on budgeting and long-range plans that affect them, such as planning their college educations.

Make little plans: Start collecting pennies, and plan to spend them each time the piggy bank is full. Let the kids help plan meals — each one gets a favorite menu once a week. Let each one plan a special Sunday afternoon outing for the whole family — it will encourage the youngsters both to develop their own interests, and to consider the tastes of others.

Create: Paint the attic, the basement, or the *inside* of the garage with left-over paint — freestyle! Write poems — everyone contributes one line. Tell stories — everyone contributes one a day. Find out everyone's special talent and make each a "star" for an evening.

Collect things, and tell each other about them: Pictures of odd-looking people for instance, and interesting places . . . strange stones and even stamps can be a more exciting hobby if the collector learns their history, and shares his new discoveries.

Give gifts that must be used by two or more: A see-saw for the back yard, a badminton or croquet set, a bicycle-built-for-two! Get a chess set, learn how to play together, then have a family tournament. Figure out how to play old-fashioned games like cribbage, backgammon, or whist!

Leave each other alone: It's important for both parents and children to pursue individual interests, and have time alone. And it's a good idea for parents to get away from it all *without* the kids. A few hours as a couple, instead of just as parents, can give a healthy dose of perspective. How about you and your spouse checking in at a local hotel or motel and having room service serve you breakfast in bed — in the bridal suite!

Whatever ideas you come up with to make family life more lively, be sure to let each member be a part of the decision. Studies in group dynamics prove that open discussion of plans and changes results in a far more harmonious and happy group. Dr. Elizabeth B. Hurlock, child psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania, stresses the importance of self-expression and independence to the development of a child's personality.

There's a whole group of exciting and interesting new people, just waiting for you to discover them. Interested? Go home — your own family can be "what's happening!"

# THE WINDYBUSH ROAD

*by Dr. Arthur E. Bye*

The Windybush Road is an old trail, although now graded and surfaced, linking in a nearly straight line Wrightstown with New Hope. It was so named by the early white settlers because of the profusion of scrub oak in this windy section. Starting at the southern end and going east, the traveler will go up and down hill many times, skirting long stretches of deep woods, but also passing through numerous farm lands, discovering, either close to the road or back from it, alluring old stone houses at which he would like to stop and learn their history. There are no villages along this ten mile stretch, and the Windybush is no thoroughfare between large towns, so the countryside has been left to itself. Some of the farms have been converted to country estates — but not in a way to change the character of the scenery — and there is one "development" near New Hope called Oak Ridge consisting of only a few handsome houses built among the trees. But I am not going so far toward New Hope this fine autumn day. About halfway between the Anchor and New Hope, Windybush is crossed by the Street Road, running from Lahaska; here, a little to the south, is the hamlet of Buckmanville. Here I stop to gaze over the broad landscape, stretching as far as the Jericho Hills and the tower of Bowmans Hill.

It was along this Windybush Road that William Smith of Wrightstown, in 1709, purchased 200 acres, where only the red man roamed, and which his son Thomas took over as soon as he was old enough to farm. Probably Thomas Smith's homestead is still standing, and is one of the old houses one sees from the Windybush Road, (and I believe there is some controversy about it), but I am particularly interested in two farms once a part of the Smith tract, one known as the Trego Farm, which you can't see from the road, and the other near Buckmanville, known as the original homestead farm of John Atkinson, called Scotforth; this adjoined the Smith tract.

The Buckmanville, or southern side of the road is in Upper Makefield township, but when John Atkinson acquired his farm, it was in the Manor of Highlands, (belonging to the London Company). The house can hardly be seen from the road on account of the dense growth of evergreens of various kinds, chiefly hemlocks. It is built on a gently sloping hillside overlooking the valley in the middle of which Pidcocks Creek rises and follows its course to the river.

There are two reasons why I am interested in this house; one is that it is a gem of an old homestead which has the remains of most of the features of a self-containing community — great all stone barn, stables, coach house, springhouse, pond, etc.; the other is that there is a history here of the origin of one of Bucks County's pioneer families. Again it is the story of near tragedy that we learned of at Marsh Gibbon.

John Atkinson was the orphaned son of John and Suzanna Atkinson who lived in a small village in Lancashire, England, near the town of Lancaster and the sea — called Scotforth. The Atkinsons belonged to the upper yeoman class, and had a small freeholding in the little town, not large enough to entitle them to be of the squire class, but sufficient, when sold, to enable them to buy a 1500 acre grant of land in Pennsylvania, and to pay for 13 Atkinsons to cross the Atlantic and still have some cash to spare. Two brothers, Christopher and John, decided in 1699 to leave for their new home, and accordingly, embarked with their families on the ship "Britannia" from Liverpool. Why they "put all their eggs in one basket" so to speak, when the crossing was so hazardous, is difficult to understand. Their families consisted of Christopher's wife Margaret, son William, and daughters Margaret, Hannah, Isobel, an unborn child, and possibly two other children, Alice and Joseph, John's wife Suzanna, sons William and John, and daughter Mary. Also accompanying them were two sisters of Suzanna Atkinson, Mary and Alice Hyde.

The Britannia sailed in May 1699, and before reaching Philadelphia in August, three of this family died, and possibly two others who were unaccounted for. Christopher died in July, and both John and his wife also died in July. Shortly after arriving, Hannah died as a result of her sickness on the ship, and William, Christopher's only son, was drowned about a month later. So that Margaret was left a widow with but two daughters — the "unborn child" seems never to have lived — Margaret and Isobel. As for the children of John and Suzanna, they survived and were cared for by their aunts.

One fifth of the passengers on the "Britannia" died of smallpox, the same disease that proved fatal to one third of the voyagers on the "Welcome." It was referred to for generations after as "The Sick Ship."

John Atkinson, born in 1695, was only four years old when tragedy struck both his parents. Until he was 21 he lived with his uncle William Stockdale, (who had married his aunt Alice Hyde), in Warminster, Bucks County, and in 1717 he decided to marry Mary Smith, daughter of William Smith of Wrightstown and Mary Croasdale, and to start a family near his brother-in-law on the Windybush Road.

He and his brother William had inherited the 1500 acres which Christopher and John had purchased before leaving Scotforth. This property, although not located as surveyed, had been administered by the Middletown Friends Meeting, (the Quakers were very solicitous about orphan members). Now John had his share of this inheritance and could use it for the purchase of a plantation.

Here John Atkinson built his house and barn, planted out an orchard of which one pear tree was still standing in 1886, over 160 years old, and acquired a family of eight children, of whom six lived to maturity. His house built in 1718, we may be sure, was a very small affair; after his death in 1751, his son William tore it down and built the present mansion near the site of the former, closer to the spring, using the old stones and axe hewn beams in its construction. As late as 1901 there was a depression in the ground, overgrown with brambles, where the first house stood. In the basement kitchen of William's new house are to be seen the blackened joists taken from the original house. William is said to have planted the buttonwood tree at the corner of the house which now (1901) is one of the giants of its species.

The spring, above mentioned, which is enclosed in a stone springhouse, gives today a plentiful supply of water. Its overflow fills an ice pond below it, and from thence a streamlet winds its way toward a tributary to the larger Pidcocks Creek.

Scotforth is an elegant mansion. The front is not so long as most of the early houses because, by 1751, the L-shaped plan was coming into use, also the slope of the ground called for an extension on a lower level at right angles to the front. Often whenever a house

was built on sloping ground, the basement was used for the kitchen; here this is the case. Such a plan gives the landscapist the opportunity of introducing terraces, steps, and planting, as here.

A unique distinction is the treatment of windows across the front, of which there are three on the first and four on the second story. There are stone arches over all the windows — a feature I have found nowhere else, as generally they were built only over the first floor windows — the second floor windows being close to the eaves. Therefore, at Scotforth, the ceilings are rather high, and give an effect of spaciousness to the interior rooms. Only in the basement with its great fireplace are preserved the primitive characteristics.

Scotforth remained with the descendants of John Atkinson for six generations. A few years ago it was purchased by Dr. Milton DelManzo who restored it and planted many of the evergreen trees and shrubbery about the house, and at the same time altered the interior to suit modern ways of living. It is now the possession of Mr. Thomas H. Ashbridge, (who was born at Blackden Manor), and his wife, who prize it highly and intend to preserve its antiquarian beauty. As they are lovers of horses, the great stone barn is put to good use.

The picture of Scotforth would not be complete without reference to the neighboring Atkinson farm, a handsome estate on the corner of Windybush and Street Road, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Gutman. They call their property "Makefield Farms." There is a date stone 1853 with the initials S.B.A. for Samuel Atkinson and his wife, which would explain the style of the main section — which is certainly Victorian — and restored and furnished richly by the Gutmans. But there is a one story wing (?) which is plainly much earlier, and has a date stone 17--, the last two numbers being illegible.

Mr. Gutman told me an anecdote of how he got the property and I repeat it because it is an all too true example of what has happened to many a fine old homestead. It remained in the Atkinson family until it was sold to an itinerant drug seller. A generation or so ago, before the time of automobiles, it was not so easy to go to Doylestown for every need; then peddlers

(*continued on page 20*)

(continued from page 5)

County-wide Intensified Teacher Training; Itinerant Diagnostic Services; Pilot Programs for Exceptional Children; Curriculum Development; and Regional Instructional Media Center.

At the present time a very exciting program is being carried out by the Bucks County Public Schools under Title III, Elementary and Secondary Education Act Project. This is the Bucks County Project for the "Intensification of the Learning Process" which has the intriguing nickname PEP (Personalized Educational Prescriptions). This system being developed will help the classroom teacher to provide each pupil with a program tailored to his needs and abilities.

The pilot class for the Project is a second grade class at Doyle Elementary School in Doylestown. A very detailed diagnosis of each child was started on February 15, 1967 and will continue until July 15, 1969. This diagnosis will yield learning styles which will be related to behavioral objectives a child is to achieve.

In short, the Bucks County Project hopes to preserve the human element in the teaching-learning process —to focus on the individual needs of the child. To help attain the goals of the Project, a Child and Youth Study Services and an Instructional Media Center and Services have been established. The Child and Youth Study Services program will emphasize the development of Personalized Educational Prescriptions for each pupil which will identify resources which will then be provided by the Instructional Media Center. The computer will be used extensively for maintaining data on the pupils and developing "prescriptions" for each child.

R. Kenneth Pierce, Associate Director of the Project, stresses the importance of valid information about each pupil's learning patterns and individual characteristics to the teacher. He feels the time may come when accurate records of a child's mental and physical development from birth on will be available to the school for better

diagnosis of the student's particular learning needs.

Rudolph P. Miller, Instructional Materials Specialist, explains the value of the programmed learning devices used in the Project. It is because these are worked by the pupils themselves that their interest in learning increases and they feel successful. An example of this is a device where the pupil watches a small TV screen and is asked a question. He pushes a button to stop the machine, writes his answer in a special booklet, pushes the button to start the machine and continues. He is also able to score his own answers.

A Learning Resources Labratory is now available to all school district personnel in Bucks County. The Lab has curriculum publications, a professional library, a workshop area, a media development center, and consultant services. Again we see the blending of the old and the new in Bucks County education for this Lab is located (as is the headquarters for the Project) in the old Doyle Elementary School which was built in 1889 and only recently retired from service as a school. Among the many "scholars" who attended this old school were Margaret Mead and James Michener. The school is officially named the Annex Building but its nickname is "The Castle" because of its unique architecture. And it is another link with the past to notice in the production room filled with modern machines and materials — the original cloak room at the end of the room with real slate blackboards on the top half of the cloak room doors. A peek inside reveals the numbers which went with the pegs for the students' coats.

How surprised the Bucks County teachers of the 1800's would be if they could visit the Annex Building and see all the marvelous learning tools and materials there and if they were told about the Bucks County Project for the Intensification of the Learning Process. They would understant one thing very well, indeed; the main concern of education in Bucks County is still the well being of the individual child. With the old, strict but sound principles of a century ago or the progressive learning methods and marvelous ideas of today, the goal may well be the same — for the pupils of Bucks County schools to be taught with "gentle insinuation and sovereign delight."

# BOOKS IN REVIEW

**PURITY IN PRINT: The Vice-Society Movement and Book Censorship in America** by Paul S. Boyer. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York. $7.95.

It seems clear that we in the United States are at the present moment engaged in a major reexamination and reformulation of our attitudes toward the problems of literary freedom and censorship. For years it has been widely assumed that the new freedom of sexual expression in literature was a "good thing" — an encouraging sign of our society's increasing maturity and healthy-mindedness and the harbinger of a literary renaissance which would be marked by ever more sensitive explorations of the human condition. Any effort by society to limit this freedom was denounced as a dangerous symptom of incipient totalitarianism or residual Victorian prudery.

This position is being sharply challenged from many quarters. In 1957 the United States Supreme Court denied to "obscenity" the Constitutional guarantee of freedom of the press, and since then the courts have been engaged in a sometimes confusing effort to define the precise limits beyond which First-Amendment protection does not extend. In one recent attempt to deal with this issue, the **Ginsburg** decision of 1966, the Supreme Court significantly broadened the legal definition of obscenity by upholding Ginzburg's conviction on the basis of the "pandering" manner in which he had advertised his publications. Currently, a little-known Presidential Commission has been studying the traffic in obscenity.

**Purity in Print** traces the history of book censorship in America from the founding of the Societies for the Suppression of Vice in the 1870s until their decline in the early thirties, a decline symbolized by the famous 1933 decision to allow **Ulysses** through U.S. customs. At the time of their founding both publishers and authors viewed the work of the vice societies as a positive influence in American life. Later, of course, the vice society mentality became a subject for ridicule and the name of Anthony Comstock entered the language as a symbol of repression.

Based on newspaper accounts, memoirs, court records and interviews, **Purity in Print** recounts the famous censorship cases such as Cabell's **Jurgen**, Dreiser's **The Genius** and **Lady Chatterly's Lover**; it also describes equally fascinating, but lesser known, controversies over the "Clean Books" crusade of the twenties [which, according to one commentator, would have produced a censorship law so strong it could be used to ban the Bible.] But most revealing are the many surprising and little-known facts about the key figures in the censorship battles — Anthony Comstock, himself, H. L. Mencken, John Sumner, Alfred A. Knopf, Upton Sinclair and many more.

In analyzing the struggle for literary freedom of an earlier era, Boyer provides a valuable perspective on the renewed demands for censorship being heard today.

**A Citizen Dissent** by Mark Lane. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., New York. $6.95.

One of the first actions of a revolutionary group or of a dictatorship is to seize control of the mass media — press, radio, and TV. One of the criteria for a democratic society is the freedom to criticize any and every structure within that society.

But this freedom to criticize may be restricted in other ways than by dictatorship. Our modern economy is so constituted that the power of the press is in the hands of relatively few people. The very size of the major publishers and the electronic media is such that they can tolerate no boat-rocking except of their own choosing. Fearless journalism has become almost a contradiction in terms. The press and the communications industry depend so heavily on advertisers and government for their very existence that they may feel free to criticize only one aspect of the Establishment at a time.

If one-tenth of Mr. Lane's experiences as related in the book are true, then there is a serious danger that we never can or will know the truth about the Kennedy assassination — or for that matter, about many other events as well.

The horrible conclusion forced upon Mr. Lane's readers is that his story is true — both the fact that the Warren Commission either bungled hopelessly or deliberately ignored evidence and the fact that various private and governmental agencies conspired separately or collectively to supress or ridicule Mr. Lane's findings and those of other critics.

We have been a part of the working press at major news events often enough to know the pitfalls of the profession. In the chain of communication between a conventional happening and its description in print there are many sources of unwitting error. There is the problem of the reporter himself, the pressures on him from the people directly involved at the scene, the psychological barriers to knowing the facts in the first place, the rewrite hurdle, electromechanical jumbles on telephone or teletype, the distortions frequently introduced by the headline writer, editorial casualties which result in qualifying phrases or paragraphs winding up in the hell-box, the editor's judgment and restrictions imposed by space or format, to say nothing of the publisher's policy or misinterpretation of it by the desk men.

Mark Lane refers to none of these problems, though surely they played their part in the information explosion growing out of the assassination of a president. But those things he does say are a terrifying indictment of almost everyone associated with the rush to judgment.

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*Reading from left, rear: Walter Michiner, Grace Bigley, Clarence Rubincam. Second row: Oliver Vroom, J. Carrol Molloy, Russel Miller. Third row: Florence Ely, Mabel Ott, Ivy Swartz, Edna Rockafellow, Edwin Molloy. Front row: Harry Stuckert. Photographed by Tom Selser, a member of the class.*

# the century

*JUNIOR O.U.A.M. DOYLESTOWN DRUM CORPS*
*MAY 30, 1900 — ON THE OLD COURT HOUSE LAWN*
*Reading from left, rear: Harvey Harold, Ned Walton, Ely, Stoltz, Stultz, Charles McIntosh. Front: Herman Stultz, Billie Crouthamel. Johnnie Weinrebe, Drum Major, Walter Hoffman, Leon ——, Leon Photographed by Tom Selser, Bugler Member of Corps.*

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# Rambling with Russ

by

A. Russell Thomas

SEPTEMBER: the Autumnal Equinox occurs this month . . . Labor Day, Monday, 2nd . . . Bucks County Grand Jury convenes, Sept. 9 . . . President McKinley shot, Sept. 6, 1901 . . . Two weeks of Bucks County criminal court starts Monday, Sept. 23 . . . Autumn begins, Sept. 22(Sunday) . . . Gold Star Mother's Day, Sunday, Sept. 29 . . . Safety pins invented, Sept. 30, 1854.

• • •

PREFACE: Temperature in the low 90's as this piece is being batted out to meet the deadline . . . Republicans are battling it out in Miami Beach (record a pair of votes for *Rocky* from this domicile) . . . Green Street, Doylestown, is still a first-class pain-in-the-neck so far as traffic is concerned, with cars and trucks parked illegally every working day . . . Off for a brief vacation in Wisconsin and back home in time to pay that miserable school tax and save two percent.

• • •

*DOWN MEMORY LANE*
(Doylestown Maennerchor)

TWENTY-FIVE years ago (1943) this Rambler and the late Fred Dersten, prepared a souvenir banquet booklet on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the Maennerchor Society. Fred translated the German minutes and this scribe edited the copy.

The Doylestown Maennerchor was born July 1, 1884, at the Clear Spring Hotel, North Main Street, Doylestown, with 15 witnesses attending. Of German origin, the Society was founded as a singing group for the purpose of keeping alive old German songs and good music, jazz being unknown at that time.

Today the Maennerchor is one of the largest clubs in Bucks County with a first-class financial rating, thanks to excellent club management on the part of Frank

Worthington, now living in New Jersey, and Elwood Barnes, both of whom served 18-year periods of management, quite a record in itself.

• • •

SOME OF the many amusing German minutes, translated into English may be of interest to *Panorama* readers and others. Here they are:

The first cash contribution amounted to $15 on August 5, 1884, given by the members. The secretary bought four new song books for $7 at this meeting. A motion was passed to hold the monthly meetings and the weekly singing hours at the home of McGinty and Siegler for which they received a yearly rent of $25.

Nov. 4, 1884, motion made to pay song teacher, Augustus Ziegler, yearly salary of $36, to be paid quarterly. Dues were set at $1.50 per month. A motion was made to hold a ball on Easter Monday, 1885, at Danboro but no enthusiasm shown, because most members would not go to such an isolated place.

March 18, 1886, new meeting rooms rented from the Bodine Post, G.A.R. at $50 a year. (The present club headquarters).

June 23, 1887, committee reported that a horse and wagon had been hired for an all-day excursion for $5.00 . . . May 24, 1888, Undertaker Geil, a member of the Maennerchor, was paid $40 for burying Member Boeck . . . July 12, 1888, total wealth of the club was $356.36. (Today it is worth many thousands) . . . Dec. 18, 1888, it was reported that Brother Ed Carl was "mortally wounded". He cut himself across the stomach with a saw at the spoke factory, but recovered.

March 21, 1889 . . . Aaron Byce offered to keep the club clean for $15 a year and the trustees ordered to put up a sign, "STRANGERS NOT ADMITTED." . . . Two members were fined 50 cents each for neglecting their duties on a sick committee.

Feb., 1890, a former member, Dr. Harry C. Mercer, paid $23 in back dues and asked to be made a passive member . . . June 26, 1890, trustees were ordered to nail some cloth over the windows to keep the flies out and a bill for 55 cents was submitted . . . June 18, 1891, death benefit for members was fixed at $50 and $30 for member's wife.

Sept. 17, 1891, Joseph Bestler offered to teach singing for 50 cents an hour . . . April 13, 1894, motion to get

(continued on page 18)

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Between Friends

*by Sheila Martin*

September — a beautiful month — the weather is delightful, the outdoors is full of color, and best of all, the kids are back in school.

We send our oldest son off to college this September, an event full of emotional (and financial) overtones. The emotion arose not from seeing him go but from seeing that first semester bill come.

I must say colleges have everything computerized and figured out to the smallest detail these days. Gone is any sense of adventure, mystery, or anticipation for the college has already given my son the results of interest and aptitude tests showing what professions he should enter; an analysis of his intelligence and test marks in relation to his fellow freshmen; a prediction to two decimal places of the grades he may expect to make his first year; his room mate's name and address; and he has completely made out his schedule and registered by mail. Since we have paid the bill for the first semester, I wonder if the computer would miss him if he didn't show up?

* * *

The Bucks County Council League of Women Voters has donated past files of the Voters Guides to the Mercer Historical Library in Doylestown for use as a political history of Bucks County.

Politics is a prime concern right now with Election Day, Nov. 5, bringing us a presidential election. Remember, if you have not registered, that Monday, Sept. 16, is the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote in November. You may register at the office of the Registration Commission, Bucks County Administration Building, Broad and Court Sts., Doylestown daily from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. and Saturday until noon. (And weren't the political conventions fun to watch on TV? They surely beat any other summer comedy programs.)

* * *

Good luck to Dr. John F. Yon of Buckingham, former assistant superintendent of Central Bucks School District,

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If he hasn't got it . . maybe he just hasn't got it.

who is now Dean of Student Personnel Services at Edinboro State College.

Our good wishes also go to Dr. Jack L. Livingston of Chalfont who is now a full professor in the College of Education at Duquesne University after serving 10 years as principal of Central Bucks High School, Doylestown. His successor at Central Bucks is Dr. David Spahr.

• • •

The Board of Directors of the Southampton Free Library has established a memorial fund for Miss Winifred James who died recently. Miss James was one of the original founders of the library and served on its board for 30 years. Her devotion to the library, the community, and the Episcopal Church of the Redemption is well known to her many friends in Southampton.

• • •

Attention, all Bucks County artists! A survey is presently being conducted by the Bucks County Arts Foundation of groups and individuals in the following art fields: painting, sculpture, graphic art, work of artist-craftsmen, photography, architecture, dance, music, and drama. When the survey is finished, the Foundation will then maintain a cross file on Bucks County artists for the public to consult. Any of you talented people in Bucks County who haven't been surveyed yet, contact the Foundation Headquarters in the Doylestown Court House.

• • •

The Chalfont Fire Company needs more Daytime Ambulance Personnel. Anyone interested in joining the Chalfont Fire Co. and working with the ambulance during the day on call, please contact Jim Taylor at 822-2050. You will be performing a vital service to your community and a service that can only be done by volunteers.

• • •

Arthur R. Harris of Warrington has been elected to the Executive Board of the Bucks County Council, Boy Scouts of America where he will serve as the solicitor for the Scout Council.

A concert starring Van Cliburn for the benefit of the new Scout Service Center in Doylestown will be held Nov. 7 at the Bucks County Community College. Tickets go on sale Sept. 15 but orders can be sent before then to the Scout Center, 225 Green St., Doylestown.

• • •

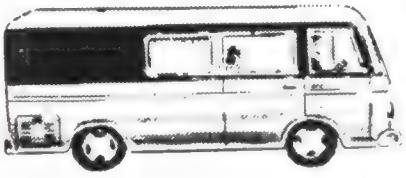
Happy birthday to Mrs. Henry Ittleson who has a residence in Kintnersville — she will be 93 on Sept. 27. Mrs. Ittleson has spent many years of work in the fields of mental health and social service; she has truly lived a life of understanding of and service to her fellow man.

• • •

Did you know that Sherlock Holmes is now in New Hope? Well, my dear Watson, this particular Sherlock

*(continued on page 21)*

**CLARK CORTEZ**



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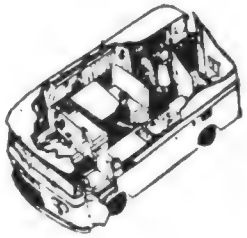

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*(continued from page 15)*

electric light for the club rooms as same would be cheaper than oil lamps . . . June 7, 1894, special meeting held to plan for a 10th anniversary to be held at Harvey Crouthamel's at Buckingham, on July 3, 1894, the price to be 50 cents per man and 75 cents for a man and wife.

Oct. 10, 1895, piano bought for $185.00 from Cunningham & Co., with five years guarantee, $100 to be paid in cash and $85 on account . . . Agent for piano company gave Maennerchor a stool and also a piano cover for a present . . . April 9, 1896, Grand Army Post signed lease for three years at $50 per year to use rooms for meetings . . . April 1, 1897, bill for water rent for 6 months was $5.23.

April 22, 1897, John Coppel, secretary, bought lawnmower for $3 but later exchanged it for smaller one and received $1 back . . . April 22, 1897, trustees received three bids for painting the outside of building (Fonash, $14.90; Malsbury, $11.44; Judson Good, $10.40) and lowest bid accepted . . . March 3, 1898, trustees bought a safe at a sale for $2 and paid $1.75 to have it delivered.

(THIS IS A DANDY) . . . July 28, 1898, Member Raike excused himself that he could not audit the books, because a heavy thundershower kept him home . . . Oct. 5, 1898, the secretary reported that a fire broke out in the Ruos Bicycle Factory, and the club gave them permission to store bikes in the basement for $2.50 a month rental . . . Jan. 12, 1899, secretary reported an electric light bill for $6.35, but made a motion that since the light on the front door had not been burning for four nights, and the club had to use its own light, that 25 cents be deducted from the bill . . . Oct. 27, Two tons of coal delivered by Raike and Korchersberger, for $5.50 a ton, with 4 percent off for cash. Swartley Brothers & Co., 2-1/2 tons at $5.75 per ton, 2 percent off for cash. Trustees were ordered to see if coal could not be bought at same price as Raike & Kochersberger, and the following meeting it was reported that this would be okay.

April 5, 1900, club bought $800 perpetual fire insurance policy for five years for $12.00 . . . July 1, 1900, capital was $2,642.10, a gain of $124.90 in six months . . . July 19, 1900, a committee to audit the books reported that the secretary paid 8 cents short to treasurer, and only after 8 cents was paid was the committee discharged.

July 26, 1900, new rules and regulations set up by the governors: A member who comes drunk or tries to come drunk in the club house shall be fined $1 the first time, $2 the second time, and the third time he shall be suspended for leading an immoral life. No singing or music on Sundays to be allowed. Cussing and loud noises are not allowed at anytime. Betting and playing for money

*(continued on page 20)*

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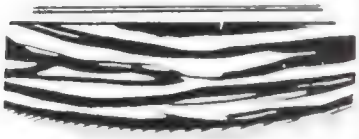

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*INTERLUDE* stars Oskar Werner and Barbara Ferris. Werner, as a famous London orchestra conductor and Ferris as a newspaper reporter rekindle an old affair, causing repercussions with Werner's wife, played by Virginia Maskell. England is seen through beautiful color photography with music by classical types such as Beethoven and Mozart a la *Elvira Madigan*. A poignant story of a man torn between love of two beautiful women.

*DARK OF THE SUN* offers thrills, excitement and violence in an African uprising. Cast includes Rod Taylor, Yvette Mimieux and Jim Brown. Captain Rod Taylor as a tough mercenary and Jim Brown, a native of the Congo, embark on a mission to go deep into jungle interiors to rescue a number of white inhabitants and 50 million dollars in diamonds. Much action and suspense.

*PETULIA*, directed by Richard Lester, the Philadelphia native turned Anglophile and the wonder boy of Beatles fame (*Hard Day's Night*) stars Julie Christie, George C. Scott and Richard Chamberlain. Miss Christie as Petulia is not happy or satisfied with handsome hubby, Richard Chamberlain. Seeing Scott at a San Francisco Ball, she decides to plague him with her beauty and her mercurial, incomprehensible ways. Lester flashbacks, cut-ins and psychedelic trappings abound.

*WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT* is a brimming composite of familiar comedy situation and stars Doris Day, Robert Morse, Terry Thomas, Patrick O'Neal, Steve Allen, Jim Backus and Ben Blue. The story revolves around comic events which occurred in the massive power failure and blackout which struck the eastern U.S. in November, 1965.

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*(continued from page 9)*

of all kinds found business in the countryside. Some of them must have become rich — at least this one in question was able to buy the Atkinson farm, where he thought he could live like a gentleman and which he thought he would enjoy for the rest of his life. He employed a Pole by the name of Nowicki to run it, and when the old peddler died, it was left to Nowicki.

Nowicki was a hard working man, but ignorant, let the pigs run loose, and the buildings went from bad to worse. When finally he had to sell, Mr. Gutman found utter deterioration. Fortunately, the Gutmans are people of vision and could see, having the money, the possibilities inherent in the farm.

n.* Note by Charles F. Jenkins quoted by Oliver Hough "Atkinson Families of Bucks County," from which I have obtained most of my material.

---

*(continued from page 18)*

IS OUT. No member is allowed to stay at the club later than 11 P.M. on weekdays and Saturdays at 12 P.M.

Nov. 24, 1904: The secretary reported that the grass around the club needed manure. Harry Myers donated manure without cost and the club gave him a vote of thanks for his courtesy, but Member Peter Rogers delivered manure and put same on grass, but charged $2.25 . . . June 30, 1905, secretary's salary passed and paid at $25., plus postage, $1, for a year . . .

Jan. 30, 1908, Honorary Member W. Harry Smith died, and all members who go to funeral shall carry a white rose. Roses ordered from Andre's Flower Shop and club paid the bill.

July 4, 1912, Joseph Windholz elected president . . . Nov. 4, 1915, James Thierolf appointed steward at salary of 50 cents per night . . . March 5, 1917, steward to be paid $40 per month after he threatened to resign for more money . . . June 21, 1917, order for $30.50 made to Joe Windholz to pay first liquor and pool table license and $40 donation made to Miss Jane Watson for American Red Cross.

July 9, 1910, Governors raised price of whiskey to 15 cents per glass. Cigars raised to 6 cents apiece. Cigarettes raised to 7 cents per pack. Whiskey cost now $8.75 per gallon. A barrel was ordered for $413.65 and steward's wages increased to $50 per month.

Jan. 17, 1918, Members Windholz, Clymer, Beck, Good, Peiter and Coppel went to funeral of Brother Michael Mayers at Neshaminy in Member Clymer's automobile. Mr. Clymer refused to make a charge for the use of his car.

*(continued from page 17)*

Holmes is a 59 year old private railroad car, the newest addition to the New Hope and Ivyland Railroad's collection of old steam locomotives and railroad cars. The Sherlock Holmes used to run on the Soo Line but now will serve for a while as the office of Paul Shein, executive vice-president of the New Hope and Ivyland, and later will be open for public display. Railroad buffs in Bucks County are very glad to have this interesting steam line located in New Hope.

• • •

A very valuable addition to the resources of the Bucks County Community College Library was made in July by the Bucks County Board of Realtors. They presented the Library with the first of an annual gift of books on real estate — given in memory of Charles J. Happ, a past president of the Board. Plans are underway for a real estate course at the College leading to an Associate degree in Real Estate to start in Sept. 1969.

• • •

Our congratulations go to Jacqueline O'Neill of Lower Makefield Township crowned prettiest waitress in Atlantic City, and also to Judy Lempa of Newtown who was crowned Queen of the Furrow for Bucks County.

• • •

Senator Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) has presented an autographed copy of his new book, *The Golden Age of Chinese Art*, to the Bucks County Arts Foundation. The book is in the Arts Lounge open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays.

• • •

Watch it, any Indians in Bucks County who are planning a rain dance! The new Weather Modification Board of Pa. is holding a public hearing soon on the problems of cloud seeding, rain making, and related activities and will consider testimony on these activities before issuing permits.

• • •

Repairing and pointing of the stone wall foundations of the carriage sheds on the Pine Street side of the Bucks County Historical Society's Mercer Museum is being done by workmen of Elmer O. Strouse, masonry contractor of Danboro. Preservation of these sheds is important since they symbolize the protection given to horses and carriages years ago while the owners attended church services or transacted business.

• • •

Anyone having slides of any scenes or buildings in Buckingham who would like to share them in a marvelous program, take note. Roger Williams, Jr. of the Buckingham Taxpayers Assoc. will duplicate your slides and return them to you. He plans to present a program of slides from Buckingham, England and our own Buckingham in Bucks County, comparing the two towns which are identical in population. It sounds like a wonderful idea, and anyone who lives in or near Buckingham knows what a lovely place it is for picture-taking. Send your 35mm slides to Mr. Williams, c/o Buckingham Taxpayers Assoc, Buckingham.

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NEW HOPE & IVYLAND RAILROAD

**Steam Train Excursion Schedule**

**Weekends and Holidays**

| Leave New Hope | Leave Buckingham Valley |
|---|---|
| 12:00; 1:30; 3:00; 4:30 P.M. | 12:45; 2:15; 3:45 P.M. |

**14 mile round trip fare. ADULTS $1.50 — CHILDREN $.75**
Park your car or bus FREE at Buckingham Valley, and ride the fabulous Iron Horse to New Hope and return on any later train.
**GROUP AND CHARTER RATES**
**For information on group tickets, or for reserving a full car or special train for parties or fund-raising events, write to: General Manager, New Hope & Ivyland Railroad, New Hope, Pa. 18938. Or call: New Hope [215] 862-5206 — Philadelphia [215] 343-2112**

THE SCHOOL OF THE
BUCKS COUNTY
BALLET COMPANY
**4 East State Street, Doylestown, Pa. 18901**

Registration — 1968-69 Season
**Wed., Thurs., Fri., September 11, 12, 13, 1968**
**2:00 - 5:00 P.M. — 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.**

Jazz Ballet Modern
Adults Children Teenage

**Classes begin Monday, September 16, 1968**
**For further information call 348 - 8016**

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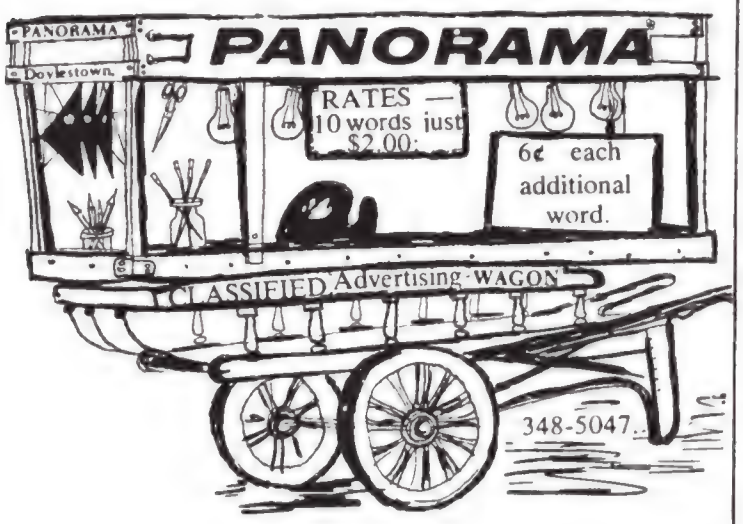


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## *Calendar of Events*

*(continued from page 3)*

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# FALL
# Comes To Bucks County
## real estate

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REALTOR
NEW HOPE, PA. 862-2828

**SPARKLING ONE-STORY**

In attractive countryside, west of Doylestown, a nearly new one-story house on corner acre. Not in development, it has rural privacy. Of brick and aluminum siding, it has living room [16 x 20], complete kitchen, opening to dining area [12 x 21], attractive family room [12 x 24] with fireplace; 3 spacious bedrooms, 2 tiled baths. Two-car garage. Full basement. Entire property in perfect condition. Excellent value at $29,900.

**J. CARROLL MOLLOY**
REALTOR
30 S. Main Street Doylestown, Pa. 348-3558

**SIX ACRE FARM ESTATE**

Ideally located at the edge of Doylestown, fine old Bucks County stone house, completely remodeled to today's standard of living. Huge living room with fireplace, dining room, kitchen with walk-in fireplace, 3 bedrooms, one with fireplace, 2 1/2 baths. Large stone and frame barn with attached 3 car garage and apartment unit. Sits high overlooking large fenced pasture, spring and lake. More acreage available — $85,000.

*Robert E. Porter*
STATE & PINE STREETS, DOYLESTOWN 348-9066

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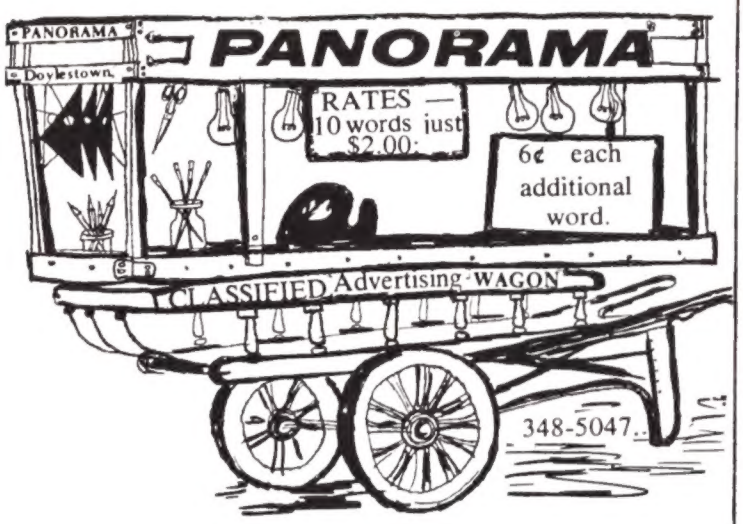


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